

Office of Children's Services Out of Home Children

Data extracted Thursday December 10, 2015 from Alaska's ORCARPT database

Reporting period is the most recently completed Twelve Months

About the data in this report

This report summarizes statistics for children who were in Alaska's Office of Children's Services (OCS) Out of Home (OOH) removals during all or part of each period being reported.

Removal for OOH placement is the last option considered when reasonable efforts to protect a child in his or her own home have been exhausted by OCS. The first preference considered in all out-of-home placements for a child or youth is a relative's home. When it is not possible to place a child with a relative it is necessary to place the child in a licensed foster home. Residential care facilities may offer short-term emergency shelter as well as more long-term residential treatment.

Below are charts which present OOH data over time. Following the charts OOH data is presented in more detail by period, in reverse chronological order. Please refer to the end of this report for OCS Out of Home Web Report Field Definitions.

"Unique count" indicates that each child (or case, for case counts) is counted only once per reported category. However, some out of home individuals may have moved between regions during the reporting period. Therefore, regional demographic counts may not add to statewide Alaska totals.

Children removed on the first day of reporting periods are not included in beginning-of-period counts. Children discharged on the last day of reporting periods are not included in end-of-period counts.

Child age is calculated based on discharge date if the child was discharged during the reporting period, otherwise child age calculation is based on the end of the reporting period.

Native Status is determined by reported race of either Alaskan Native or Native American.

To protect the privacy of individuals in low-count groups, regional breakouts are not included for monthly reports and for some yearly summary tables.

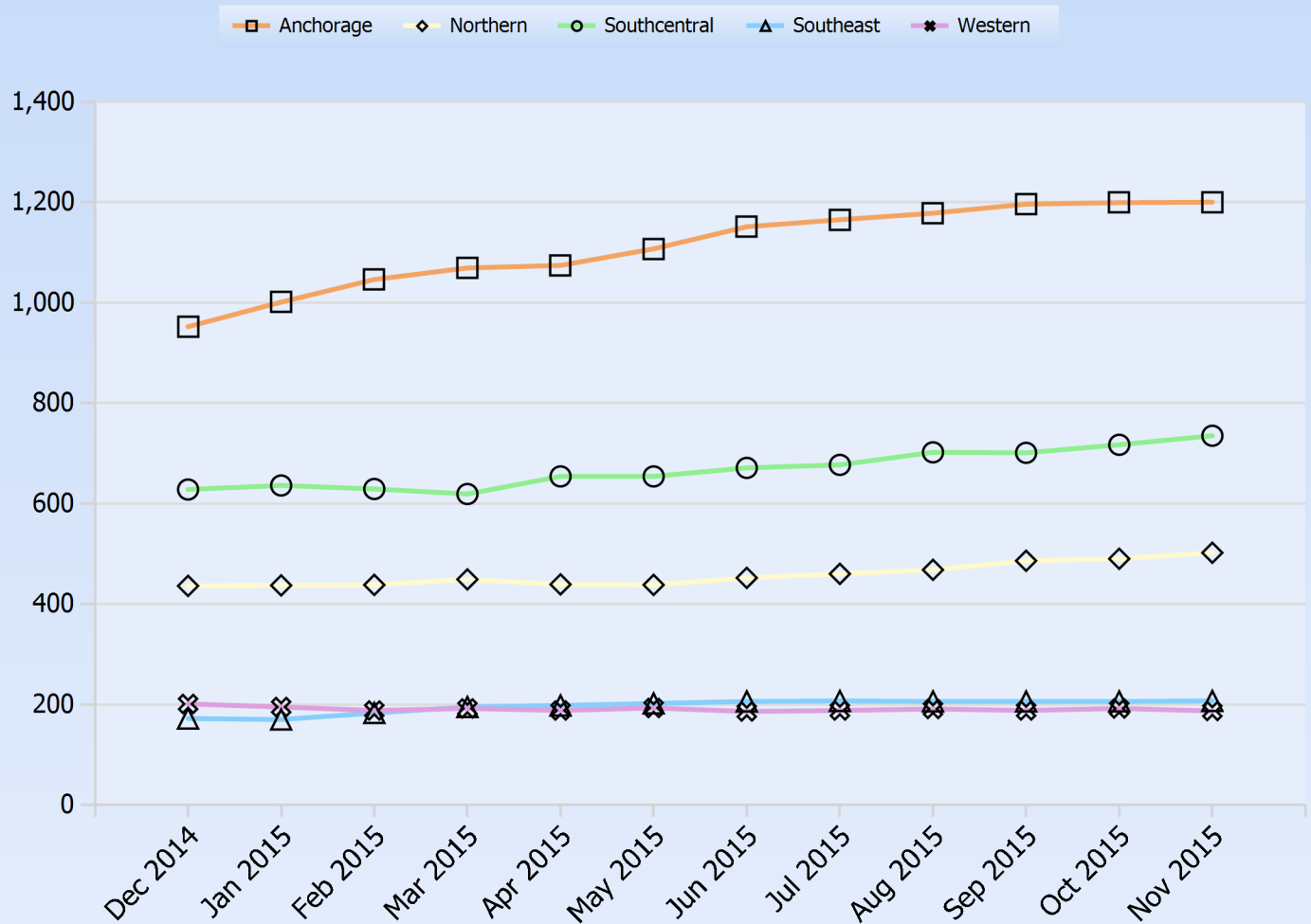
Subsequent reports covering the same reporting periods will contain updated statistics.

Unique Count* of Children in Alaska OCS Out-of-Home Placement during each of the Last Twelve Months by OCS Region

Region	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	Jun 2015	Jul 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2015	Oct 2015	Nov 2015
Anchorage	952	1,001	1,046	1,069	1,074	1,107	1,151	1,165	1,178	1,196	1,199	1,200
Northern	436	437	438	449	439	438	452	460	468	486	490	502
Southcentral	628	636	629	619	654	654	671	677	702	701	717	735
Southeast	172	170	183	195	198	202	206	207	206	206	206	207
Western	201	195	188	192	188	193	186	188	191	188	192	187
Alaska, unique count	2,389	2,439	2,484	2,524	2,553	2,594	2,666	2,697	2,745	2,777	2,804	2,831

* "Unique count" indicates that each child is counted only once per reported category. However, some out of home individuals may have moved between regions during the reporting period. Therefore, regional demographic counts may not add to statewide Alaska totals.

Unique Count of OCS Out of Home Children during the Last Twelve Months by OCS Region



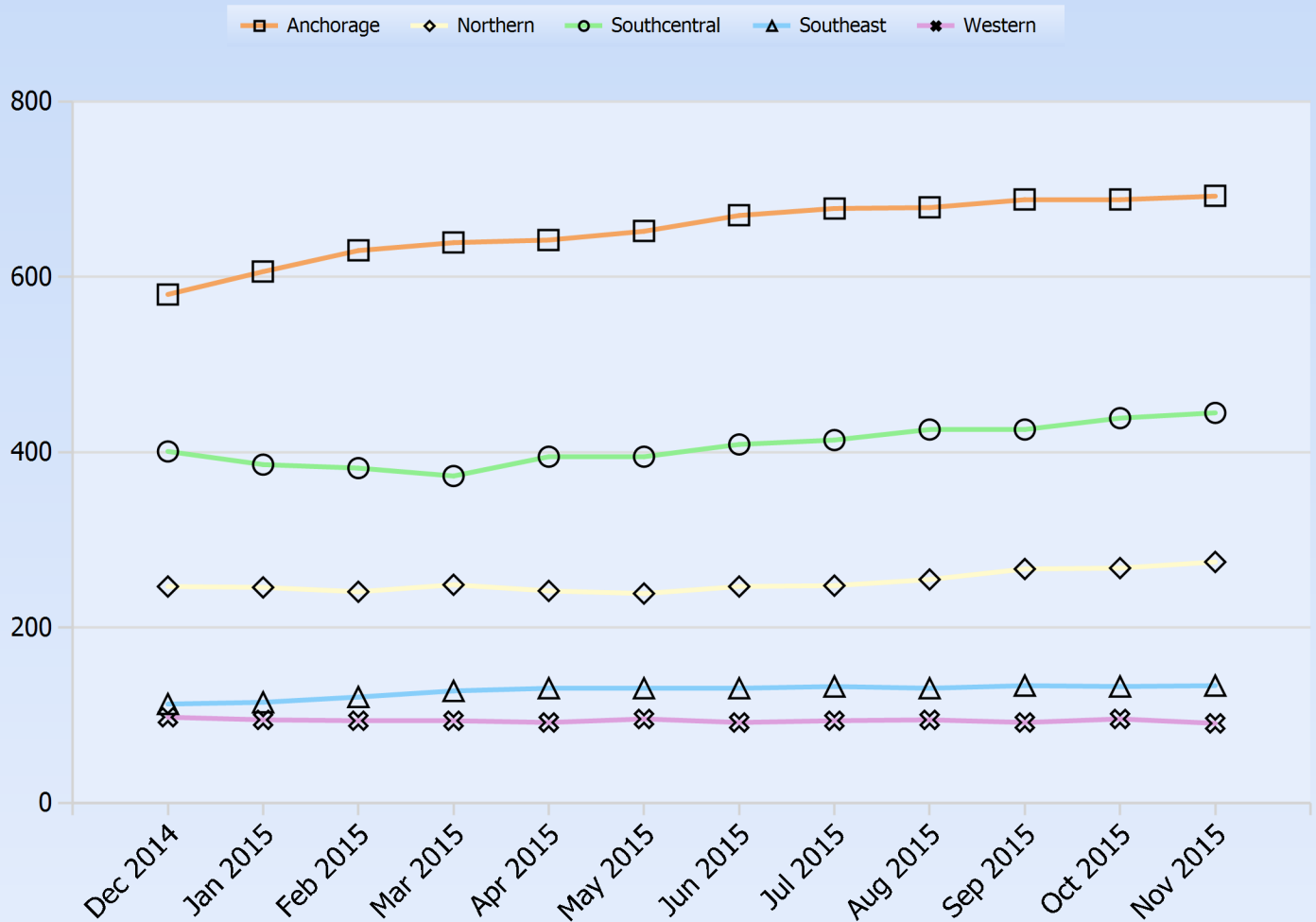
Updated December 10, 2015

Unique Count of OCS Out-of-Home Cases during each of the Last Twelve Months by OCS Region

Region	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	Jun 2015	Jul 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2015	Oct 2015	Nov 2015
Anchorage	580	606	630	639	642	652	670	678	679	688	688	692
Northern	247	246	241	249	242	239	247	248	255	267	268	275
Southcentral	401	386	382	373	395	395	409	414	426	426	439	445
Southeast	113	115	121	128	131	131	131	133	131	134	133	134
Western	98	95	94	94	92	96	92	94	95	92	96	91
Alaska, unique count	1,439	1,448	1,468	1,483	1,502	1,513	1,549	1,567	1,586	1,607	1,624	1,637

* "Unique count" indicates that each case is counted only once per reported category. However, some out of home individuals may have moved between regions during the reporting period. Therefore, regional demographic counts may not add to statewide Alaska totals.

Unique Count of OCS Out of Home Cases during the Last Twelve Months by OCS Region



Updated December 10, 2015

OCS Children Out of Home during November 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,735
OOH children at end of month	2,749
OOH children during month	2,831
OOH cases during month	1,637
Children removed during month	96
Children discharged during month	82

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	25
Child Aged Out	2
Custody Released to Relative	2
Guardianship	4
Reunification	45
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	4

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,126
Foster Family Relative Home	1,031
Group Home	89
Institution	100
Other	14
Pending Discharge	55
Pre-Adoptive	44
Runaway	20
Supervised Independent Living	4
Trial Home Visit	266

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,374
Female Child	1,375
Child Age 0-2	628
Child Age 3-5	591
Child Age 6-8	496
Child Age 9-11	375
Child Age 12-14	303
Child Age 15+	356
Native Child	1,514
Non-native Child	1,092
Child Race Unknown	143

OCS Children Out of Home during October 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,708
OOH children at end of month	2,736
OOH children during month	2,804
OOH cases during month	1,624
Children removed during month	96
Children discharged during month	68

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	9
Child Aged Out	3
Custody Released to Relative	1
Guardianship	3
Reunification	49
Runaway - Custody Released	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	2

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,126
Foster Family Relative Home	1,001
Group Home	80
Institution	90
Other	17
Pending Discharge	70
Pre-Adoptive	40
Runaway	19
Supervised Independent Living	4
Trial Home Visit	289

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,359
Female Child	1,377
Child Age 0-2	626
Child Age 3-5	593
Child Age 6-8	494
Child Age 9-11	374
Child Age 12-14	299
Child Age 15+	350
Native Child	1,502
Non-native Child	1,097
Child Race Unknown	137

OCS Children Out of Home during September 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,660
OOH children at end of month	2,709
OOH children during month	2,777
OOH cases during month	1,607
Children removed during month	119
Children discharged during month	70

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	25
Child Aged Out	3
Custody Released to Relative	1
Reunification	33
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	8

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,125
Foster Family Relative Home	1,018
Group Home	81
Institution	84
Other	19
Pending Discharge	39
Pre-Adoptive	41
Runaway	14
Supervised Independent Living	4
Trial Home Visit	284

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,350
Female Child	1,359
Child Age 0-2	626
Child Age 3-5	591
Child Age 6-8	492
Child Age 9-11	369
Child Age 12-14	290
Child Age 15+	341
Native Child	1,501
Non-native Child	1,080
Child Race Unknown	128

OCS Children Out of Home during August 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,631
OOH children at end of month	2,662
OOH children during month	2,745
OOH cases during month	1,586
Children removed during month	114
Children discharged during month	83

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	30
Child Aged Out	6
Guardianship	2
Reunification	39
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	6

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,110
Foster Family Relative Home	1,009
Group Home	75
Institution	79
Other	5
Pending Discharge	47
Pre-Adoptive	45
Runaway	12
Supervised Independent Living	4
Trial Home Visit	276

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,322
Female Child	1,340
Child Age 0-2	636
Child Age 3-5	583
Child Age 6-8	467
Child Age 9-11	361
Child Age 12-14	284
Child Age 15+	331
Native Child	1,488
Non-native Child	1,054
Child Race Unknown	120

OCS Children Out of Home during July 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,581
OOH children at end of month	2,631
OOH children during month	2,697
OOH cases during month	1,567
Children removed during month	116
Children discharged during month	66

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	20
Child Aged Out	6
Death Of Child	1
Reunification	36
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	3

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,100
Foster Family Relative Home	992
Group Home	89
Institution	80
Other	13
Pending Discharge	54
Pre-Adoptive	48
Runaway	7
Supervised Independent Living	1
Trial Home Visit	247

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,305
Female Child	1,326
Child Age 0-2	637
Child Age 3-5	571
Child Age 6-8	461
Child Age 9-11	356
Child Age 12-14	280
Child Age 15+	326
Native Child	1,476
Non-native Child	1,044
Child Race Unknown	111

OCS Children Out of Home during June 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,501
OOH children at end of month	2,590
OOH children during month	2,666
OOH cases during month	1,549
Children removed during month	165
Children discharged during month	76

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	14
Child Aged Out	6
Custody Released to Relative	2
Death Of Child	1
Reunification	49
Transfer to DJJ	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	3

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,074
Foster Family Relative Home	973
Group Home	84
Institution	90
Other	28
Pending Discharge	51
Pre-Adoptive	51
Runaway	10
Supervised Independent Living	2
Trial Home Visit	227

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,286
Female Child	1,304
Child Age 0-2	638
Child Age 3-5	538
Child Age 6-8	466
Child Age 9-11	345
Child Age 12-14	278
Child Age 15+	325
Native Child	1,467
Non-native Child	1,023
Child Race Unknown	100

OCS Children Out of Home during May 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,470
OOH children at end of month	2,502
OOH children during month	2,594
OOH cases during month	1,513
Children removed during month	124
Children discharged during month	92

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	27
Child Aged Out	5
Custody Released to Relative	2
Guardianship	3
Reunification	46
Runaway - Custody Released	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	8

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,054
Foster Family Relative Home	936
Group Home	75
Institution	93
Other	29
Pending Discharge	45
Pre-Adoptive	45
Runaway	10
Supervised Independent Living	1
Trial Home Visit	214

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,250
Female Child	1,252
Child Age 0-2	616
Child Age 3-5	506
Child Age 6-8	465
Child Age 9-11	323
Child Age 12-14	277
Child Age 15+	315
Native Child	1,409
Non-native Child	1,002
Child Race Unknown	91

OCS Children Out of Home during April 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,433
OOH children at end of month	2,476
OOH children during month	2,553
OOH cases during month	1,502
Children removed during month	120
Children discharged during month	77

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	30
Child Aged Out	3
Custody Released to Relative	2
Guardianship	3
Reunification	35
Runaway - Custody Released	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	3

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,051
Foster Family Relative Home	941
Group Home	83
Institution	91
Other	26
Pending Discharge	45
Pre-Adoptive	43
Runaway	9
Supervised Independent Living	2
Trial Home Visit	185

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,239
Female Child	1,237
Child Age 0-2	605
Child Age 3-5	509
Child Age 6-8	449
Child Age 9-11	325
Child Age 12-14	280
Child Age 15+	308
Native Child	1,419
Non-native Child	968
Child Race Unknown	89

OCS Children Out of Home during March 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,385
OOH children at end of month	2,448
OOH children during month	2,524
OOH cases during month	1,483
Children removed during month	139
Children discharged during month	76

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	28
Child Aged Out	2
Custody Released to Relative	1
Guardianship	1
Reunification	41
Runaway - Custody Released	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	2

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,051
Foster Family Relative Home	913
Group Home	83
Institution	98
Other	13
Pending Discharge	53
Pre-Adoptive	44
Runaway	8
Supervised Independent Living	4
Trial Home Visit	181

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,219
Female Child	1,229
Child Age 0-2	602
Child Age 3-5	518
Child Age 6-8	442
Child Age 9-11	312
Child Age 12-14	271
Child Age 15+	303
Native Child	1,425
Non-native Child	935
Child Race Unknown	88

OCS Children Out of Home during February 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,363
OOH children at end of month	2,388
OOH children during month	2,484
OOH cases during month	1,468
Children removed during month	121
Children discharged during month	96

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	20
Child Aged Out	5
Custody Released to Relative	2
Death Of Child	1
Guardianship	2
Reunification	57
Runaway - Custody Released	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	8

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	1,031
Foster Family Relative Home	878
Group Home	76
Institution	100
Other	12
Pending Discharge	53
Pre-Adoptive	45
Runaway	10
Supervised Independent Living	5
Trial Home Visit	178

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,190
Female Child	1,198
Child Age 0-2	590
Child Age 3-5	497
Child Age 6-8	425
Child Age 9-11	312
Child Age 12-14	268
Child Age 15+	296
Native Child	1,393
Non-native Child	912
Child Race Unknown	83

OCS Children Out of Home during January 2015

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,266
OOH children at end of month	2,363
OOH children during month	2,439
OOH cases during month	1,448
Children removed during month	173
Children discharged during month	76

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	11
Child Aged Out	2
Custody Released to Relative	6
Guardianship	5
Reunification	46
Runaway - Custody Released	3
Transfer to DJJ	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	2

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	985
Foster Family Relative Home	869
Group Home	73
Institution	97
Other	20
Pending Discharge	46
Pre-Adoptive	43
Runaway	12
Supervised Independent Living	8
Trial Home Visit	210

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,186
Female Child	1,177
Child Age 0-2	572
Child Age 3-5	494
Child Age 6-8	420
Child Age 9-11	314
Child Age 12-14	263
Child Age 15+	300
Native Child	1,380
Non-native Child	896
Child Race Unknown	87

OCS Children Out of Home during December 2014

Unique OOH Counts for the Month

OOH children at start of month	2,287
OOH children at end of month	2,266
OOH children during month	2,389
OOH cases during month	1,439
Children removed during month	102
Children discharged during month	123

Reason for Discharges during the Month

Adoption	51
Child Aged Out	4
Custody Released to Relative	2
Death Of Child	1
Guardianship	6
Reunification	51
Runaway - Custody Released	2
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	6

OOH Placement Setting at the end of the Month

Foster Family Non-Relative Home	921
Foster Family Relative Home	856
Group Home	73
Institution	93
Other	14
Pending Discharge	28
Pre-Adoptive	44
Runaway	13
Supervised Independent Living	8
Trial Home Visit	216

End-of-month OOH Demographics

Male Child	1,128
Female Child	1,138
Child Age 0-2	536
Child Age 3-5	478
Child Age 6-8	398
Child Age 9-11	301
Child Age 12-14	254
Child Age 15+	299
Native Child	1,344
Non-native Child	842
Child Race Unknown	80

OCS Out of Home Web Report Field Definitions

Adoption – Transfer of the legal relation of parent to a person not related to the child by birth, with the same mutual rights and obligations that existed between the child and his or her birth parents.

Case - A household unit included in one or more Initial Assessment.

Day - For purposes of Foster Care a day is midnight to midnight. This report counts a child as Out of Home on the day of Removal but not on the day of Discharge. Therefore, children discharged on the first day of the reporting period will not be included in counts for the start of that reporting period.

Discharge - The point in time when a child is no longer in Out of Home Care.

Guardianship - A person outside of the child's household fulfills some of the responsibilities of a legal parent while the courts or birthparents may continue to hold other legal responsibilities for the child. Guardianship is subject to ongoing supervision by the court and ends by court order or when the child reaches the age of majority. Guardianship may be used as an alternative to Adoption in some kinship care situations in which a child's relative is assuming a parental role but prefers not to adopt. Guardians may be entitled to the same benefits as Foster or Adoptive parents.

Native Child - Any mention of Alaska Native or American Indian race.

Office of Children's Services (OCS) - A division of Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services.

ORCA - Online Resources for the Children of Alaska, OCS's main database.

Out-of-Home Placement (OOH or OOHP) / Removal: Placing the child in the physical care of someone other than the child's Caregiver. Removal may include situations in which the child is living in the same residence as the Caregiver, but the Caregiver's ability to exercise physical care and control of the child

Placement - The physical setting in which a child resides after Removal; that is, the resultant Foster Care setting. A new Placement setting results when the Foster Care setting changes, for example, when a child moves from one Foster family home to another or to a Group Home or Institution.

Region, as used in this Out of Home report - One of areas of five Alaska, based on the office of the primary OCS worker responsible for the Case at Discharge or, if not Discharged during the period, at the end of the reporting period.

Removal - The physical act of a child being taken from his or her normal place of residence, by court order or a voluntary placement agreement, and placed in a substitute care setting, or the removal of Custody from the parent or relative Guardian pursuant to a court order or voluntary placement agreement which permits the child to remain in a substitute care setting.

Reporting Period – Complete month or calendar year, as specified in the report. Owing to Unique Counts, data reported on a monthly basis will not necessarily sum to annual figures.

Unique Count – An unduplicated count within the Reporting Period; that is, each person, ID, or combination of person or ID with other factors is counted only once regardless of the number of times represented within the reported group during the reporting period. For example, a child out of home in two regions during a reporting period will be counted once for each region where region is being reported, but only once where count for all of Alaska is being reported. Therefore total of all regions may not equal statewide count.

Discharge Reasons:

- **Adoption** - Termination of all legal relationships between the adopted person and the natural parents and other relatives of the adopted person, so that the adopted person thereafter is a stranger to the former relatives for all purposes; to create the relationship of parent and child between petitioner and the adopted person, as if the adopted person were a legitimate blood descendant of the petitioner, for all purposes.
- **Child Aged Out** – Child between 18-21 exited OCS custody based on their age. Child may enter an independent living arrangement. .
- **Custody Released to Relative** - Legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child has been transferred to a relative of the child.
- **Death of Child** – The child has died, not necessarily as a result of maltreatment.
- **Guardianship** - A legal arrangement where a person or institution is appointed as a guardian to make decisions for an incapacitated person - decisions about housing, medical care, legal issues, and services.
- **Reunification** - Discharge from Out of Home Placement to reunite child and family.
- **THV Expired - Custody Retained** – A trial home visit exceeded six months or a time period ordered by a court. If a trial home visit exceeds this time limit, or if a child is placed at home and custody lapses and the child is placed in out-of-home care again, it is considered a second removal from home,
- **Transfer to another Agency** – Transfer of child Legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child to a tribe or other non-OCS entity.
- **Transfer to DJJ** – Transfer of Legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child to Alaska's Department of Juvenile Justice, an agency is in the same Department as OCS. DJJ has a different database of record, but OCS is responsible for paying Foster Care for these children.
- **Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction** - Legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child was transferred to a Native tribe.

Placement Settings:

- **Foster Home** - An OCS approved home in which an adult head of the household provides 24-hour care on a continuing basis to one or more children who are apart from their principal Caregiver. The adult may be a Relative or Non-Relative. Non-relative Foster Homes must be licensed by OCS.
- **Group Home** - A home that cares for more than three, but no more than eight, children unrelated to the Foster parent.
- **Institution** - A child care facility operated by a public or private agency and providing 24-hour care and/or treatment for children who require separation from their own homes and group living experience. These facilities may include: child care institutions, residential treatment facilities, maternity homes, nursing homes, hospitals, etc.
- **Missing Documentation** – A placement was ended but insufficient information was entered into ORCA to determine subsequent placement setting.
- **Pending Discharge** - Foster Care placement has ended for reasons such as Adoption, Guardianship, Aging-Out, Emancipation, Death of Child, or other reason to release State legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child, but Discharge paperwork had not been completed at the end of the Reporting Period.
- **Pre-Adoptive** - A home in which a child is placed with a family with the understanding that the family plans to adopt the child.
- **Runaway** – A child who left the Provider he/she was placed with, whose whereabouts are either currently unknown or who is staying in an unapproved setting, and for whom the State retains legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child.
- **Supervised Independent Living** – A type of voluntary extended Foster Care placement where young adults can live on their own, while still getting casework and support services to help them become independent and self-sufficient.
- **Trial Home Visit (THV)** – The child has been in a Foster Care placement, but, under continuing OCS supervision, is returned to the child's principal Caregiver for a limited period of time. If the THV is successful legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child may be returned to the principal Caregiver.